

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Officer Involved Shooting

Page 1 of 5

Report Date: 06-21-04		Bureau/Station/Facility: Twin Towers Correctional Facility		Admin. Invest.? <input type="checkbox"/> Hit? <input type="checkbox"/>	
Incident Information					
URN: San Bernardino Co. Sheriff's #110408813		Date: 06-21-04		Time: 0110 Hours	
City or Station: Alta Loma		Nature of Incident: Deputy Thoms hears his car alarm sound. He arms himself with his 2" revolver, looks outside and sees one suspect standing near his car. The drivers door is open. He goes outside to investigate and yells at the suspect. A second suspect exits Thoms' car and both suspects run towards their car. Deputy Thoms 9mm Beretta was in his car and he feared the suspects had stolen it. One of the suspects stops and faces Thoms. Fearing he was going to be shot with his Beretta, Deputy Thoms fired 3 rounds from his revolver at the suspect facing him. The suspects fled the location and it is unknown if either suspect was shot.			
Location: Mount Cambridge Court					
Location Type (circle one or more): Backyard Beach Business Freeway Industrial Park Parking Lot <u>Residence</u> Rural School Street Other: _____	Lighting (circle only one): Darkness Daylight Other <u>Street Lights</u>	Incident Type (circle one or more): Accidental <u>Armed Person</u> <u>Fleeing Suspect</u> Foot Pursuit Gun Take Away Moving Vehicle Sniper/Ambush Stunt Struggle Involved Traffic Stop Unarmed Person Unintentional Vehicle Pursuit Warrant Service Other: <u>Off-Duty</u>		Initiated by (circle only one): Arrest Warrant Call <u>Observation</u> One Person Unit Other Search Warrant Two Person Unit	
	Weather (circle only one): <u>Clear</u> Cloudy Fog Rain			Prior Activity (circle only one): Detective Inmate Transport <u>Other</u> Routine Patrol	
	Distance: Appx. 25 Feet			Aero Unit? <input type="checkbox"/> Canine Unit? <input type="checkbox"/>	
Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy 3		Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect 0			
Employee Witnesses					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (circle only one): EM PM Day	ShiftType (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (circle only one): EM PM Day	ShiftType (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (circle only one): EM PM Day	ShiftType (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty
Non-Employee Witnesses					
Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Street Address		City	Zip	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Street Address		City	Zip	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Street Address		City	Zip	Work Ph	Home Ph
Supervisors					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(circle one or more): <u>On Duty</u> Present during shooting	
	Mitchell	Chester		Witness to shooting Involved in shooting	
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(circle one or more): <u>On Duty</u> Present during shooting	
				Witness to shooting Involved in shooting	
Watch Sergeant					
Employee #	Last Name		First Name		M.I.
Watch Commander					
Employee #	Last Name		First Name		M.I.

PSTD Use Only

SH # **2121419**

(BW)	Browning	(LU)	Luger	(SH)	Sturm Ruger	Caliber					
(CH)	Charter Arms	(MA)	Marlin	(ST)	Sterling	(9)	9 mm	(24)	.243 caliber	(41)	.410 guage
(CO)	Colt	(MO)	Mossberg	(TA)	Taurus	(10)	10 mm	(25)	.25 caliber	(44)	.44 caliber
(DA)	Davis Industries	(NC)	NCI aka SKS	(WE)	Weatherby	(12)	12 guage	(30)	.308 caliber	(45)	.45 caliber
(GL)	Glock	(NA)	North American	(WN)	Winchester	(20)	20 guage	(35)	.357 caliber	(50)	50 mm
(HA)	Harrington & Richardson	(NO)	Norinco	(US)	US Government	(21)	.22-250	(36)	30-60 caliber	(SL)	Slug
(HI)	Hi Standard	(RA)	Raven	(YY)	Handmade (Inmate)	(22)	.22 caliber	(38)	.38 caliber	(WW)	Other caliber
(HK)	H & K	(RM)	Remington	(XX)	Homemade (Non-Inmate)	(23)	.223 caliber	(40)	.40 caliber		
(IT)	Ithica	(RG)	RG	(ZZ)	Other Brand						

[illegible]

Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

URN: San Bernardino Co. Sheriff's #110408813

Page 3 of 5

Involved Employee										
E	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
			Thoms			Robert				
	Sex:	Race:	Rank	Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):				
	M	White	Deputy Sheriff	TTCF		Off/I.O.D.				
	ShiftTime (circle only one):		ShiftType (circle only one):		Intoxication/Drug Usage?		Substance Used:			
	EM PM Day		Regular Overtime Off Duty		<input type="checkbox"/>					
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Interviewed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one):		Other Factors:			
	30 Minutes		Off/I.O.D.		Plain Clothes no Vest		Deputy Thoms was off-duty, at home, at the time of this shooting.			
	Age:		Height:		Weight:					
47		6'00"		230 Lbs						
Range Qualification Date:			PPC Qualification Date:			Laser Training Date:				
Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>			Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Number of Prior Shootings: 1	
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
E	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
	Sex:	Race:	Rank	Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):				
	ShiftTime (circle only one):		ShiftType (circle only one):		Intoxication/Drug Usage?		Substance Used:			
	EM PM Day		Regular Overtime Off Duty		<input type="checkbox"/>					
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one):		Other Factors:			
					Plain Clothes no Vest					
	Age:		Height:		Weight:					
Range Qualification Date:			PPC Qualification Date:			Laser Training Date:				
Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>			Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>		Number of Prior Shootings:	
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
E	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
	Sex:	Race:	Rank	Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):				
	ShiftTime (circle only one):		ShiftType (circle only one):		Intoxication/Drug Usage?		Substance Used:			
	EM PM Day		Regular Overtime Off Duty		<input type="checkbox"/>					
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one):		Other Factors:			
					Plain Clothes no Vest					
	Age:		Height:		Weight:					
Range Qualification Date:			PPC Qualification Date:			Laser Training Date:				
Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>			Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>		Number of Prior Shootings:	
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		

Officer Involved Shooting Suspect Information

URN: San Bernardino Co. Sheriff's #110408813

Page 4 of 5

Suspect Information

S 1	Last Name Unknown/Outstanding			First Name M.I.		
	AKA Last Name			First Name M.I.		
	Sex: M	Race: Hispanic	Street Address:		City	State & Zip Code:
	Work Phone:		Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:	
	Age: D.O.B.	Height:	Weight:	FBI #	CII #	
	Booking #		Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>		Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Vehicle Make Honda		Model: 4-door		Year:	
	S 2	Last Name Unknown/Outstanding			First Name M.I.	
AKA Last Name			First Name M.I.			
Sex: M		Race: Hispanic	Street Address:		City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:		Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:		
Age: D.O.B.		Height:	Weight:	FBI #	CII #	
Booking #		Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:		
Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Used:	
Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>		Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>		Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>	
Vehicle Make Honda		Model: 4-door		Year:		
S		Last Name			First Name M.I.	
	AKA Last Name			First Name M.I.		
	Sex:	Race:	Street Address:		City	State & Zip Code:
	Work Phone:		Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:	
	Age: D.O.B.	Height:	Weight:	FBI #	CII #	
	Booking #		Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>		Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Vehicle Make		Model:		Year:	
	S	Last Name			First Name M.I.	
AKA Last Name			First Name M.I.			
Sex:		Race:	Street Address:		City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:		Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:		
Age: D.O.B.		Height:	Weight:	FBI #	CII #	
Booking #		Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:		
Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Used:	
Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>		Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>		Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>	
Vehicle Make		Model:		Year:		

See Other Side

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Page 5 of 5

Non-Employee Witnesses

[illegible]

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

**INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY
USE OF FORCE**

**OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING (NON-HIT)
TWIN TOWERS CUSTODY FACILITY**

**IAB: #SH2121419
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S CASE: #110408813**

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0110 hours, Deputy Robert Thoms of Twin Towers Correctional Facility was involved in an off-duty shooting at his home in the City of Alta Loma.

Deputy Thoms was in bed and had just fallen asleep when he heard the alarm on his car "chirp." Deputy Thoms armed himself with his Smith & Wesson, 2 ½ inch revolver and went downstairs to investigate. Deputy Thoms looked out his kitchen window and saw a male (Suspect #1) standing near a vehicle parked in the street, east of his home. He then saw that the drivers door to his (Thoms) vehicle was open. Deputy Thoms vehicle was parked in his driveway, facing the garage door of his home. The passenger's side door of his vehicle was closest to the front entry door of his home (Refer to Photograph, Exhibit #D).

Deputy Thoms went outside to his driveway to investigate further. When Deputy Thoms got to his driveway, near the front of his vehicle, he yelled at the suspect that was standing next to the suspect vehicle. After Deputy Thoms yelled, a second suspect (Suspect #2) exited the drivers side of Deputy Thoms' vehicle and began to run to the suspect vehicle. Deputy Thoms realized that his vehicle was just "broken into" (burglarized) and he remembered that he had left his Beretta (Duty Weapon) locked inside.

Deputy Thoms yelled at the suspects again and the second suspect stopped near the passengers door of the suspect vehicle. The second suspect then turned and faced Deputy Thoms. Deputy Thoms feared that the second suspect had armed himself with his (Thoms') Beretta and was going to shoot him. Fearing for his life, Deputy Thoms fired three rounds at the second suspect, from his Smith & Wesson Model #66, 357 Magnum revolver. Both suspects then entered the suspect vehicle and fled eastbound on Mount Cambridge Court, out of sight. Deputy Thoms immediately went inside his home and called the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. He advised them that his vehicle had just been burglarized and he believed the suspects stole his Beretta. Deputy [REDACTED] (# [REDACTED]) responded and handled the incident. A search of the area for the suspects or their vehicle was conducted, but neither was located.

It is unknown if either suspect was struck by gunfire. Deputy Thoms was not injured in the incident. A safety check of the area revealed no injured citizens and no damaged property was found. Deputy Thoms' Beretta was found and recovered by Deputy [REDACTED] from the grassy area, approximately ten feet outside the drivers door of Deputy Thoms' vehicle.

INVOLVED PERSONNEL:

Deputy Thoms, Robert # [REDACTED]
Twin Towers Correctional Facility
Custody Division

EMPLOYEE WORK HISTORY:

Thoms, Robert	
Date of Employment	<u>01/1984</u>
Date Assigned to Patrol	<u>06/1987</u>
Completed Patrol Training	[REDACTED]
Date Assigned to TTCF	[REDACTED]
Prior Shooting Incident(s)	<u>02/25/92</u>
Founded Force Incidents, Past 5 Yrs.	[REDACTED]

SUSPECTS:

Suspect #1, Unknown/Outstanding
Male, Hispanic/White, 20-29, Shaved Head, Dark Clothing, Hooded Sweatshirt

Suspect #2, Unknown/Outstanding
Male, Hispanic/White, 20-29, Shaved Head, Dark Clothing, Hooded Sweatshirt

SWORN EMPLOYEE WITNESSES:

None

CIVILIAN WITNESSES:

[REDACTED] FW/08-28-64
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MW/12-05-46
[REDACTED]

FW/04-15-57

FW/04-21-73

FO/01-22-77

FW/06-18-60

MW/07-17-48

SUSPECTS INJURIES:

Unknown

DEPUTY INJURIES:

Deputy Thoms was not injured during the incident.

IAB Note: Deputy Thoms is currently of work as "Injured On-Duty" status. He has been off work for approximately 18 months due to a shoulder injury and surgery.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Deputy John Chun ([REDACTED]) from the Crime Lab responded several hours after the incident occurred. He attempted to obtain suspect fingerprints from Deputy Thoms' Beretta and vehicle. Deputy Chun was unable to recover any identifiable fingerprints from either the car or gun (Refer to Report, Exhibit #B).

LAB Note: The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department did not request their Crime Lab. They did not list Deputy Thoms' Beretta as stolen/recovered, nor did they hold it for fingerprints.

INVESTIGATOR OBSERVATIONS:

Myself (Sgt. Sutton) and Sergeant John Harris of Internal Affairs Bureau conducted a search and safety check of the area. Deputy Thoms pointed out the general direction he believed his gunshot rounds may have traveled. A check of these areas met with negative results for bullet strikes or any type of damage or injury caused by the gunshots.

I took possession of Deputy Thoms' Smith & Wesson revolver. I found it to be loaded with three live rounds of .38 Special and three chambers were empty. Deputy [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] recovered the three expended shell casings and held them as evidence (Refer to Crime Report, Exhibit #A). I took the revolver to the crime lab for examination by Deputy Rines of Scientific Services Bureau, Firearms Identification Section (Refer to Scientific Services Bureau Report, Exhibit #C).

Sergeant Harris took photographs of the incident location (Refer to Photographs, Exhibits #D, E & F).

WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL:

Deputy Thoms, Robert

Deputy Thoms fired three rounds from his Smith and Wesson, Model #66, 2 ½ inch, 357 Magnum revolver (Refer to Photograph, Exhibit #H).

WEAPONS USED BY SUSPECTS:

None

PROPERTY DAMAGE:

None Found

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR AND CHARGES FILED:

None

IAB Note: On July 22, 2004, at approximately 0940 hours, I spoke with Detective Sergeant [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED]. He advised me that no suspects were in custody related to this incident. He also said that the case has not been assigned to an investigator and is inactive at this time, due to the lack of workable information. I requested Sergeant [REDACTED] to notify me when and if an arrest is made.

LIGHTING OR WEATHER CONDITIONS:

The incident occurred at approximately 0110 hours, on June 21, 2004. It was night time and the area was partially lit by overhead streetlights.

INVOLVED EMPLOYEES STATEMENTS:

Deputy Thoms, Robert

Refer to "Involved Employee Interview" section (verbatim transcription).

CIVILIAN WITNESS STATEMENTS:

[REDACTED]

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 1230 hours, I (Sgt. Sutton) conducted a telephonic interview with Mrs. [REDACTED]. Mrs. [REDACTED] is the [REDACTED] of Deputy Robert Thoms. The following is a summary of the interview.

On June 21, 2004 at approximately 0100 hours, Mrs. [REDACTED] said she was sleeping in her bedroom when she heard the alarm "chirp" on husband's (Dep. Thoms) vehicle. She said Deputy Thom's got out of bed and went outside to investigate. Approximately five to ten minutes later she heard three (3) gunshots. She heard the gunshots shortly after Deputy Thoms went to investigate. Mrs. [REDACTED] said she was still partially asleep when Deputy Thoms went downstairs to investigate the car alarm.

Immediately after the gunshots, Mrs. [REDACTED] heard a vehicle speeding away. Mrs. [REDACTED] said she did not hear any voices or yelling, prior to or after the gunshots.

When Deputy Thoms returned to the bedroom, he told her to "stay put," then he called police.

[REDACTED]

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0710 hours, Sergeant Harris of Internal Affairs Bureau interviewed Mr. [REDACTED] at his home. The following is a summary of the interview.

Mr. [REDACTED] said at approximately 0100 hours (06/21/04), he was lying awake in bed with his bedroom window open. He said he heard what sounded like approximately four (4) gunshots. Mr. [REDACTED] then heard a vehicle accelerating away. He said the vehicle's engine sounded like a "moped."

Mr. [REDACTED] said he thought nothing about the gunshots because he has heard gunshots during the night in the past. Approximately fifteen minutes later, he heard several patrol cars arrive on his street and a helicopter was overhead. Mr. [REDACTED] said he got out of bed and looked outside his home. He saw four or five patrol cars and saw police officers searching the homes across the street from him.

Mr. [REDACTED] said he did not hear any voices prior to the gunshots. He said he was not interviewed by responding police and he did not see or hear anything else.

[REDACTED]

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0720 hours, Sergeant Harris of Internal Affairs Bureau interviewed Ms. [REDACTED] at her home. The following is a summary of the interview.

Ms. [REDACTED] was in her bedroom at about 0100 hours (06/21/04) when she heard approximately three (3) gunshots. She said the shots sounded like they came from near her neighbor's (Deputy Thom's) home. She did not hear any voices before or after the gunshots, nor did she hear the sounds of any vehicles driving away.

Ms. [REDACTED] said the bullets from the gunshots sounded like they were striking a metal object. She said she was not interviewed by responding police officers.

Ms. [REDACTED] did not see or hear anything further.

[REDACTED]

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0700 hours, I (Sgt. Sutton) interviewed Ms. [REDACTED] at her home. The following is a summary of the interview.

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0100 hours, Ms. [REDACTED] said she was awakened by three (3) gunshots. She said the gunshots were followed by a car speeding away. Ms. [REDACTED] said she heard some voices yelling but could not recall if they were before or after the gunshots.

Ms. [REDACTED] did not know where the gunshots came from, but her husband ([REDACTED]) got out of bed and went outside to investigate. She later learned that the gunshots were fired by Deputy Thoms.

Ms. [REDACTED] did not see or hear anything further.

[REDACTED]

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 1330 hours, I (Sgt. Sutton) conducted a telephonic interview with Mr. [REDACTED]. The following is a summary of the interview.

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0105 hours, Mr. [REDACTED] was in bed when he heard two (2) gunshots, followed by a vehicle speeding down his street (Mount Cambridge Court). He said the vehicle sounded like a small import type.

Mr. [REDACTED] said he was contacted by deputies from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department later that morning. Mr. [REDACTED] did not see or hear anything further.

[REDACTED]

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0725 hours, I (Sgt. Sutton) interviewed Ms. [REDACTED] at her home. The following is a summary of the interview.

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0100 hours, Ms. [REDACTED] said she heard three (3) gunshots from her bedroom. Her bedroom is located in the back of her home, across the street from Deputy Thom's home. Immediately after the gunshots she heard a vehicle speeding away. Approximately five minutes later she heard another vehicle speeding near her home.

Ms. [REDACTED] did not hear or see anything further.

[REDACTED]

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0732 hours, I (Sgt. Sutton) interviewed Ms. [REDACTED] at her home. The following is a summary of the interview.

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0100 hours Ms. [REDACTED] said she was in bed, awakened by two (2) gunshots. She did not hear or see anything further.

[REDACTED]

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0732 hours, I (Sgt. Sutton) interviewed Mr. [REDACTED] at his home. The following is a summary of the interview.

On June 21, 2004, at approximately 0100 hours Mr. [REDACTED] said he was seated on his sofa in his livingroom when he heard three (3) gunshots. He then heard a vehicle speeding away, when he looked out his front door the vehicle was gone. Mr. [REDACTED] went to his back yard and heard a vehicle accelerating westbound on Sierra Crest Loop, located behind his home.

Mr. [REDACTED] did not see or hear anything further.

SUSPECT/INMATE STATEMENTS:

As of August 27, 2004, both suspects are still outstanding.